

Conference on Families Who Move With the Crops

3330 W. ADAMS BLVD. • LOS ANGELES 18, CALIF. • REpublic 2-0181

February 1959

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE:

MRS. HUBERT WYCKOFF, SR.
*Chairman, Subcommittee on
Children of Seasonal Farm
Workers, Governor's Advisory
Committee on Children and
Youth*

MRS. I. H. TEILMAN
Fresno Community Council

REV. DOUGLAS M. STILL
California Migrant Ministry

MR. BARD McALLISTER
*American Friends
Service Committee*

MRS. JAMES C. GOBLE
*Santa Clara County
Council of Churches*

MISS LUADA BOSWELL
Girl Scouts of America

REV. THOMAS McCULLOUGH
*National Catholic Rural
Life Conference*

MISS HELEN PHELAN
*Catholic Social
Service Organization*

MRS. RUTH I. KAISER
*California Association for
Health and Welfare*

Dear Friend:

Your interest in the seasonal farm worker and his family has led us to invite you to a CONFERENCE ON FAMILIES WHO MOVE WITH THE CROPS. The two day INSTITUTE and WORKSHOP will begin on Monday noon, March 2 and close the following afternoon of March 3, 1959.

The headquarters of the Conference will be the Hacienda Motel in Fresno, California (north of town on Highway 99).

The Subcommittee on Children of Seasonal Farm Workers of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Children and Youth is planning the Institute to bring together those who are most knowledgeable in the field to review the latest developments and to advise on methods of working together toward the common goal of improvement of the health, education, and living conditions of these families. Recommendations to the Governor's Advisory Committee might be one of the outgrowths of the Group Sessions.

Mr. Frank Potter, Executive Director of the President's Committee on Migratory Labor will be with us.

He is eager to learn the views and concerns of Californians who are close to the seasonal farm labor scene. He wishes to participate in the sessions so that he may take back to Washington our ideas and suggestions. We will ask him to describe some of the work being done in those states which have made real progress in understanding and dealing with these problems.

State and local departments of government, as well as private agencies experienced in working with these families, have been invited to send us informed consultants to give us the picture as they see it. The preliminary program is enclosed.

This should be a vitally interesting and helpful experience for all of us. We hope that it will be possible for you to attend as we would like to have the benefit of your ideas and suggestions.

Please indicate on the enclosed card if you can come.

Sincerely yours,

THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

P.S. After the Conference closes those who wish to stay may choose to participate in the organization of a continuing California rural health and education committee. CC

CONFERENCE ON FAMILIES WHO MOVE WITH THE CROPS
Hacienda Motel.....Fresno, California
March 2 & 3, 1959

March 2

12 Noon - 1:00 P.M.

Registration

1:00 - 2:30 P.M.

Luncheon

Welcome: Tom O'Neil, Chairman

Fresno Rural Health & Education Committee

Panel: "Changing Technology of Agriculture Related
to Labor Supply Patterns" Panelists: A Grower
and a Professor

Group Sessions: (Focus on the function that might
be performed by an annual conference such as
this, regularly scheduled.)

- a. Health, medical care, public assistance,
mental health
- b. Education of child and parent
- c. Employment, child labor, child care
centers
- d. Housing and sanitation
- e. Recreation and group work
- f. Probation, law enforcement, and youth in
trouble

6:00 - 7:00 P.M.

Social Hour

7:00 P.M.

Dinner

"The Picture As We See It"

(10 minute speeches by state agency officials con-
cerned with seasonal farm families)

March 3

9:30 - 10:30 A.M.

Panel: "County Plans to Meet Health Needs of
Families Who Follow the Crops"

Fresno County: Dr. Garold Faber
Dr. Benjamin Packer
Dr. William F. Stein

Imperial County: Miss Gwen Beckman

10:30 - 10:45 A.M.

Coffee Break

10:45 A.M.

The Organization and Work of a Successful State
Migrant Committee

12:00 Noon

Luncheon

Honoring Mr. Frank Potter, Executive Director of
the President's Committee on Migratory Labor

Adjournment

CONFERENCE ON FAMILIES WHO MOVE WITH THE CROPS
Fresno Hacienda
March 2 and 3, 1959

SUMMARY OF SECTION ON RECREATION, GROUP WORK AND COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE

1. Families of agricultural workers feel a lack of community acceptance and understanding, and therefore tend to isolate themselves from resources that are available.

Recommendation: There should be development of neighborhood groups working for self-improvement through self-help.

2. Communities generally do not understand or accept responsibility for meeting the needs of agricultural workers and their families.

Recommendation: Provision of training for workers in agencies and groups working with families in understanding of cultural differences and values.

Involve community people in volunteer activities as a means of increasing understanding and acceptance of agricultural families as persons.

3. There is a lack of coordination and integration of information on needs and methods being developed by various agencies and groups to meet identified needs.

Recommendation: There is need for a newsletter, clearing house, etc., for exchange of information.

There is need for an annual conference with county-organized interim meetings between conferences.

4. There is need for further study and research on the goals, potentialities and condition of families who move with the crops and on effective ways of meeting needs.

Recommendation: Studies should be made to secure facts on such things as:

Income, Value-orientation of various cultures,
Case Finding, Techniques on Community Organization.

Develop programs meeting needs for shelter, food, clothing, adult education, community centers, counseling, etc., and plans for evaluation of effectiveness of methods used.